

TOWN OF BRENTWOOD, NH  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES, NOVEMBER 12, 2014

In attendance: Robert Wofchuck, Chair; Jody Kaufman, Emily Schmalzer, Heather Gilbert, Jeff Donald, members; Reid Bunker, alternate.

Mark Glowacky was in attendance as well. He is interested in learning what the Commission does.

Chair Wofchuck called the meeting to order at 7 PM at the town office.

We agreed unanimously to give voting rights to Reid. Reid and then Emily moved to approve the October 8 minutes and the minutes were approved.

The letter of support for the DES Source Water Protection Grant was reviewed and no one had comments.

The town has been awarded a 319a grant to continue work on installing enhanced stormwater systems at other municipal sites. Rob worked with the Swasey School Board to gain their approval to do the work at Swasey. Rob is meeting next week with Laura, curriculum coordinator at Swasey, to see how we can get the kids involved with the project and use it as a learning experience for them.

We need now to begin work on the new plan for managing the town-owned properties. We have to find someone to do the assessment of the various town properties. We finalized the request for proposal at the meeting. We discussed when to ask for the responses, given that we would like to get moving on this before summer. So we moved (Heather and Jody) our support for advertising this in the Carriage Town News, on the bulletin board at the town office, on the town website etc., and for contacting various others that we know, and for arranging a deadline of January 7. This deadline will allow us to review the proposals at our January 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. All were in favor.

Outreach: Rob attended a meeting at which he met Jillian from NHDES that is coordinating the Soak up the Rain program, which is active here in NH. They have some excellent informational materials. Rob passed around a flyer that the Great Bay Stewards have adapted from the Soak up the Rain materials. The DES people will help us to tailor the brochure for our town use.

Another resource we can use is the Homeowners Guide to Stormwater Management, which provides "do it yourself" instruction.

We agreed unanimously that using these resources is far better than our developing our own from scratch.

There are grants from the Great Bay Stewards offering 50:50 match for homeowners' projects. We would consider getting the garden club involved for local projects. It will cost us a little to tweak the graphics on our signage. We are not yet sure of what amount the town will allocate to us for the upcoming year.

The February meeting is canceled.

Eric Turer volunteered to be a representative to the Exeter Squamscott River Local Advisory Committee (ESRLAC). There is still room for one more representative from Brentwood. Emily is the other representative.

Debbie Goard from the Southeast Land Trust is coming next week to work on updating and completing the conservation easement files. This is critical to protect the town and the landowners that have made donations of their land or sold at a bargain price.

Rob said that we have been presented with a bill for \$704 from the Rockingham County Conservation District for their annual monitoring of our Exeter River installation. The cost for the annual monitoring is paid from the grant which required 10 years of monitoring. The town had received \$10,000 to cover the cost of the 10 years of monitoring so this will be taken out of that reserve. The three oak trees by the bank restoration have died and we will be replaced next spring out of the reserve from the grant as well. Motion to pay the bill by Heather and Emily. Motion passed.

At a prior meeting, the Commission approved spending \$250 on plants for the new rain garden at the Library. Given it is not ideal to plant at this time, the Commission will purchase gift certificates to give to the Library so they can purchase plants next year.

Reid and Jeff moved and seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:30.

Respectfully submitted,  
Emily Schmalzer, member.